

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 02324 300652Z

14-12

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01

MC-02 /069 W

----- 117026

P R 300540Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2701

INFO SECDEF ISA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 2324

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, SN, VS

SUBJECT: GOS TURN-OVER OF MILITARY AIRCRAFT PUBLICIZED

1. STRAITS TIMES PUBLISHED MAY 30 UNSOURCED REPORT THAT GOS HAD HANDED OVER TWO MILITARY AIRCRAFT FLOWN TO SINGAPORE IN APRIL BY VIETNAMESE REFUGEES. TIMES SAID IT UNDERSTOOD THAT A C-130 AND C-47 "HAVE SINCE BEEN FLOWN TO AMERICAN BASES IN THE PACIFIC REGION, PROBABLY GUAM, BY USAF PERSONNEL." REPORT NOTED THAT THE HAND-OVER HAD TAKEN PLACE TWO WEEKS AGO AFTER 7,800 REFUGEES LEFT THE REPUBLIC AND AFTER THE AIRCRAFT HAD UNDERGONE SOME MINOR REPAIRS.

2. STORY ALSO REFERRED TO UPI REPORT FROM BANGKOK THAT QUOTED A SAIGON BROADCAST AS SAYING THAT A SPOKESMAN OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY OF SOUTH VIETNAM "STRONGLY PROTESTED AGAINST THE U.S. FOR HAVING ILLEGALLY TAKEN TWO OF THE MILITARY AIRCRAFT EVACUATED BY THE SAIGON PUPPET ARMY TO SINGAPORE." THE SPOKESMAN REPORTEDLY
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PAGE 02 SINGAP 02324 300652Z

ALSO DEMANDED THAT THE U.S. RETURN THE AIRCRAFT WITHOUT DELAY, AND POINTED TO "THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE

AUTHORITIES IN SINGAPORE TO MAKE RESTITUTION OF ALL SOUTH VIETNAM'S AIRCRAFT, SHIPS AND PROPERTY LEFT IN SINGAPORE BY THE PUPPET ARMY."

3. COMMENT: BELIEVE UPI REPORT PROMPTED GOS TO GIVE BACKGROUND INFO TO STRAITS TIMES REPORTED PARA 1. SINCE AIRCRAFT WERE ONLY REMOVED FROM TENGAH AND ARE STILL LOCATED IN SINGAPORE AT SELETAR AIR BASE, BELIEVE WE SHOULD RESPOND TO ALL PRESS QUERIES WITH "NO COMMENT". DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE THAT STORY MADE NO REFERENCE TO OTHER FIVE AIRCRAFT BEING REHABBED AT SELETAR UNDER LOCKHEED CONTRACT. RECOMMEND ADDRESSEES REFRAIN FROM COMMENTING ON THIS OMISSION.
CRONK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, MILITARY AIRCRAFT, AIRCRAFT DETENTION, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, EMERGENCY EVACUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 MAY 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SINGAP02324
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750189-0415
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975055/aaaaadvf.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOS TURN-OVER OF MILITARY AIRCRAFT PUBLICIZED
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, SN, VS, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006